

Diamond Stars Showing Belligerent Attitude Erasmus Hall Swimmers Win Championship

Players May Renounce Ties With Major League Clubs

Consider Themselves Free Agents and at Liberty to Sell Services to the Highest Bidders; Herrmann May Resign From the Commission

By W. J. Macbeth

The reorganization of organized baseball is set for a joint meeting of the two major leagues in this city the sixteenth of next month. There may be a bit of preliminary reorganizing before that time. The annual meeting of the National Commission must first be held at Cincinnati on January 6. And it is reported on apparently sound authority that August Herrmann, the chairman, will turn in his resignation at that time.

The bigger reorganization, which has to do strictly with the playing end of the game, will not be the least problem for the joint meeting to solve if an apparently belligerent attitude of a number of the most renowned players is interpreted correctly. For these players, it would appear, have renounced allegiance to their employers of 1918, considering themselves free agents and at liberty to negotiate the sale of their services to the highest bidder.

Frank Baker and Ernie Shore, the new Yankee pitcher, are two of the men who have already declared themselves on the subject. By Baker's return from France, and Leslie Mann have expressed similar views. All insist that they were given unconditional releases at the close of the past season, which was cut short because of war conditions. Most of the major league club owners, to save paying five weeks' extra wages, used the "ten days' notice" clause of contract to dismiss the help.

No Bidders for Services

Perhaps, from the point of view of the owners, these players would be justified. But there is a little bit of a problem for the joint meeting to solve if an apparently belligerent attitude of a number of the most renowned players is interpreted correctly. For these players, it would appear, have renounced allegiance to their employers of 1918, considering themselves free agents and at liberty to negotiate the sale of their services to the highest bidder.

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The Days of Real Sport



End of War Might Mean Grave Loss To American Turf

Resumption of horse racing in England after January 1, and the promised revival of the sport in France, next year may result in a loss to the American turf.

Already Tom Welsh, the well-known trainer, is laying his plans to go to France, at least to look over the winter yearlings there. John Sanford may campaign a string of horses there as well.

One other major sport manager elected was W. S. Robinson, 19, who was chosen director of the affairs of the crew. Robinson was assistant manager last year and in 1916 was manager of the freshman crew. He was a member of the Student Army Training Corps of Columbia, but he was unable to secure acceptance in either the army or navy when he tried to enlist.

Assistant Managers Named

Assistant managers were elected in virtually all sports in which Columbia will be represented next spring except crew. There is still a little uncertainty as to whether or not the Columbia will have a crew, but if it develops after the holidays that there is to be rowing, an assistant manager will be chosen.

Weather permitting, there will be two football matches played at the Marine and Field Club, to-day. The Marine and Field Club, to-day. The Marine and Field Club, to-day.

Willie Ritchie Appointed Athletic Director in West

CAMP LEWIS, TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 20.—Gerhard Steffens, "Willie Ritchie," former world's lightweight champion, has been named assistant athletic director for the Western Department of the army, according to a telegram received here from Joseph E. Raycroft, chairman of the commission on training camp activities.

Ritchie's headquarters will be in San Francisco, and the telegram stated that Roy L. Henslett had been named director of the Western Department.

Without Least Doubt

Roy Rife, who played brilliantly at halfback for the Ohio State "varsity" football team last season and whose putting in the Michigan game will rank him as the greatest player in Ohio State history, is the only one of the team who has been named to the national team.

Annapolis Expects to Renew Contests With West Point

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Dec. 21.—The return to athletic conditions as they existed prior to the war, the most important incident being the renewal of the annual contests in football and baseball with the Military Academy, will be taken up by the athletic authorities of the Naval Academy in a short time. A special effort will also be made to secure the former privilege by which the football team was permitted to play one game a season away from Annapolis, at West Point.

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Eldred Gains Top Honors at Trap Shoot

Leads N. Y. A. C. Gunners With a High Scratch Total of 97 Targets

By BRIGGS

B. E. Eldred led the field of thirty-eight gunners at the Travers Island trapshoot of the New York Athletic Club yesterday. Not only was he high scratch nimrod, with the excellent total of 97 out of a possible 100, but he also scored legs on two of the regular weekly fixtures with straight strings of 25 targets.

One of the straightaway wins in the race for the Travers Island trophy, the weekly take-home prize. The other was registered in the shoot for the Club Cup. In the latter event E. L. Spotts also scored a leg with another straight string of 25 targets.

Mr. Eldred's shooting was up to the best seen at the Travers Island trapshoot. He had a high run of 25 straight "kills." In fact all of the gunners did excellent work.

The other two regular events also were won by straight strings. O. C. Grinnell was the nimrod who smashed all his targets in the Haslin Cup event, and G. J. Corbett, chairman of the shooting committee, did the same in the shoot for the Red Cross and the Accumulation cups.

In addition to the regular events, E. B. Anderson offered some game birds, that had been killed at Fishers Island, as special prizes. One went as a scratch prize, another in a handicap event and a third in what was called a "blind shoot" in absence of a better front in the shoot for the same birds, taking the one offered for the best scratch run. The handicap prize was won by J. P. Donovan and H. B. Knight won the "blind shoot."

The scores:

Name	Scratch	Handicap	Blind	Total
B. E. Eldred	25	25	25	75
O. C. Grinnell	25	25	25	75
G. J. Corbett	25	25	25	75
E. L. Spotts	25	25	25	75
J. P. Donovan	25	25	25	75
H. B. Knight	25	25	25	75

NEW FACES ON SUNDAY—JUST BEFORE THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Intercity Soccer Match Goes to Tie On Haverford Field

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21.—The annual inter-city soccer football match between the Field Club players of New York and Philadelphia was contested this afternoon between the eleven sent by the Crescent Athletic Club, of Brooklyn, and an All-Philadelphia team on the grounds of the Morion Cricket Club, at Haverford. The result was a hard-fought tie, each side scoring three goals.

The visitors led at half time by 2 to 1, but the Philadelphians took things in hand early in the second period and established an advantage which they maintained until ten minutes from the end, when a timely shot by Van der Wolf, the Crescent A. C. centre, equalized the score.

George Orton, the noted runner, played a good game at centre half for Philadelphia, but, owing to the slippery condition of the ground, he and Phillip, of New York, sustained bad kicks and were temporarily disabled.

The line-up:

Position	New York	Philadelphia
Goalkeeper	W. J. Macbeth	W. J. Macbeth
Defenders	W. J. Macbeth	W. J. Macbeth
Forwards	W. J. Macbeth	W. J. Macbeth

Only Six Games Scheduled For City College Quintet

With the chances for playing basketball at most colleges this season being uncertain, the College of the City of New York is experiencing difficulty in rounding out their basketball schedule. The demobilization of the Student Army Training Corps units at the colleges has left athletics in a confused state. At a good many cases of learning the college athletes are being asked to decide to play a team this season. It is too late in the season to start training.

Max Hirsch at Lexington

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 21.—John A. Drake and Max Hirsch are a couple of New Yorkers well known to the turf. Drake is a horse owner in Kentucky and Hirsch is a horse owner in Kentucky. Drake is a horse owner in Kentucky and Hirsch is a horse owner in Kentucky.

Rickey to Lead Cardinals

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 21.—Branch Rickey, president of the St. Louis Cardinals, will be appointed manager of the club as soon as he returns to St. Louis. Rickey is a former player and manager of the club. He is a former player and manager of the club.

Will Renew Competition For Harmsworth Trophy

Along with the general resumption of important sporting events, another boat race with an international flavor is promised for 1919. G. A. Wood, the Detroit motorboat enthusiast and the owner of the Harmsworth trophy, has announced his intention of challenging for the Harmsworth trophy, to be raced for next year.

Three Records Broken

The Erasmus Hall swimmers continue to smash the existing records on the books, but all to no avail, on account of the schoolboy rules regarding the acceptance of new times. Three old records were broken. Clarence Ross, the Erasmus captain, covered 220 yards in 2:37.5, improving the old record of 2:45.5. Joseph Burrill led the field in the 100-yard swim in 1:00.2.5, clipping 1.4.5 seconds off the present record, while the 50-yard record was broken by Burrill in 51.5.

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